

REMARKS

Claims 1-17 are pending of which claims 1-3, 6, 8-12, and 15-17 stand rejected and claims 4, 5, 7, 13, and 14 are objected to. Claims 1, 9, and 15 are amended and new dependent claims 18-21 are added by way of this amendment to clarify the subject matter of the invention. All pending claims, as amended, as well as the newly added dependent claims are believed to be allowable over the references cited by the Examiner as discussed below. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowance for the present application is respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Independent claims 1, 9, and 15 are amended to recite that the passage portion extending between the first and second opening portions is smaller than both the first and second opening portions. New dependent claims 18-20 further specify that the passage portion is large than the first and second opening portions in a direction along which the cable management housing extends and along which the openings are disposed. Support for these amendments can be found, for example, at p. 7, line 24-p. 8, line 2 as well as in FIGS. 1 and 2.

New dependent claim 21 specifies that the cable management housing forms a structural component of the rack-mounted system for housing the removable modules. Support for new dependent claim 21 can be found, for example, at p. 9, lines 21-24.

Thus, no new matter is believed to be added by way of these amendments.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

Claims 1-3, 6, 8-12 and 15-17 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Theis.

However, as amended, each of independent claims 1, 9 and 15 recites that the passage portion extending between the first and second opening portions is smaller than both the first and second opening portions. The larger first and second opening portions facilitates in "catching" and thus blocking the cable positioned within the first or second opening portion from unintentionally sliding or otherwise entering the smaller passage portion.

In contrast, Theis discloses a slot 18a-2 and end openings 18a-1, 18a-3, that are of the same size, as shown in FIGS. 1, 2, and 5, for example. However, when a cable is repositioned from one end opening 18a-1 to the other opening 18a-3 (such as for maintenance), the cable has

a tendency to return to its original position due to, for example, the plastic properties of the cable. This is particularly true when the cable has been in one position for any period of time. With Theis' same size for both the slot and the end openings, the cable is thus not prevented from entering the slot and returning toward its original position. Such unintentional movement of the cable is undesirable and may interfere in the maintenance of the associated electronic components.

In contrast, the larger first and second opening portions as recited in the amended claims, facilitates in "catching" the cable on a side of the larger end opening and thus blocking the cable from sliding or otherwise entering the smaller passage portion. In other words, the cable can thus be prevented from returning toward its original position. Theis neither discloses nor suggests such features of a cable management system.

In addition, each of new dependent claims 18-20 further specifies that the passage portion is large than the first and second opening portions in a direction along which the cable management housing extends and the along which openings are disposed.

As Theis, either alone or in combination with secondary references, teaches or fairly suggests the inventions as claimed, withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 1, 9 and 15 as well as claims dependent therefrom under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request a Notice of Allowance for this application from the Examiner. Should the Examiner believe that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the undersigned can be reached at the telephone number set out below.

In the unlikely event that the transmittal letter accompanying this document is separated from this document and the Patent Office determines that an Extension of Time under 37 CFR 1.136 and/or any other relief is required, Applicant hereby petitions for any required relief

including Extensions of Time and/or any other relief and authorizes the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 50-1217 (Order No. GOOGP009).

Respectfully submitted,



Jung-hua Kuo
Reg. No. 41,918
P.O. Box 3275
Los Altos, CA 94024
Telephone: (650) 988-8070
Facsimile: (650) 988-8090